Wenas Mammoth Foundation Quarterly
BRINGING LOCAL NATURAL EARTH SCIENCE TO OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY
ISSUE 2020 Q2
501 (c) 3 Charity Organization

COVID-19 Update

The WMF wants to reach out to everyone in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in WA State. We are very concerned about the health of our youth, visitors, participants, and volunteers and are following the guidelines of WA State Governor Inslee and the educational institutions around the state. During this stressful time, we have, or will be, postponing any school or community events, dig site tours, and camps until it is safe to open again. Like so many families, businesses, and non-profits, this is a difficult time physically, mentally, and financially. Please keep safe and healthy.

WMF Goes Virtual

In many cases, when one door closes, another one opens. In the WMF's case, there has been a silver lining through all the stressful times of the COVID-19 outbreak. When the WMF had to cancel the 2020 STEM Teacher Paleontology, Archaeology Summer Day Camp, Bronwyn Mayo – WMF and Mark Chaney – ESD105 STEM Coordinator began the process of offering a Virtual STEM Teacher Paleontology, Archaeology Summer Day Camp where teachers could earn 15 STEM clock hours upon completion of the class. This is the first time that OSPI and STEM has offered an online class where teachers could earn clock hours online. On April 15th, the first class met on ZOOM. Teachers had 7 modules to complete in Canvas online, plus attend 4 weekly virtual meetings at 1 hour each. The topics covered include: Getting Started, Geology of Wenas Mammoth Mountain, STEM Careers in Archaeology, Paleontology, and Geology, Maintaining Field Records, Laying Out the Dig Site Unit, Excavation, and Identification of Findings. The first cohort registration filled, over 60 students, within one week. The second cohort also filled quickly with an additional 60 plus students.

(Continues Page 2)

(Continues from Page 1)

The ZOOM meetings were broadcast from the Wenas Mammoth Foundation's educational facilities on Wenas Mammoth Mountain. Mark and Bronwyn thought this would work out well, as they would have artifacts and tools accessible if students had any questions regarding what was found and what tools were used at the dig site.

The topics that are in the Canvas program are divided into modules. Each module consists of a lesson plan, Power Point presentation, videos, quiz and a discussion. One of the goals of the WMF is to give teachers' resources in which they can utilize and bring local earth science into their classroom. Teachers were asked how they would incorporate what they learned into their classroom. Here are a few of their comments:

"This will fit right in and gives my students greater appreciation for the rock formations that surround them in Vantage and the Columbia Gorge."

"This is all great information to use in conjunction with a unit in reading that we use on natural disasters and earthquakes."

"An adaptation of this lesson that works for language arts to have a class do first-person oral narratives focusing on scientists in the fields of archaeology, geology, and paleontology."

"I could use the field records process to help my students collect information that they can write about in class (essay or short argument)"

"The use of math is GREAT! In this situation, students will see the need for accurate measurements and how to use the Pythagorean Theorem in real-life!"."

"Using a topographic map would be fun for my students to locate active and ancient volcanoes."

New Skull Casts for Educational Displays

The COVID-19 outbreak has put the world on hold, the WMF has still been utilizing their time working on our educational program. Due to our networking with other paleontology sites, we now have skull casts of a Short Face Bear from the Mammoth Site in S. Dakota and a Saber Tooth Tiger from the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles, CA to add to our collection.

Coming Soon … WMF Virtual Youth Program

The WMF has been working on the curriculum for a Virtual Youth Program. The lesson module topics will include:

General Ice Age Topics:

- History of the Wenas Creek Mammoth
- What are Mammoths and Mastodons
- Habitat & Biological Evolution of the Proboscidea Family
- Wenas Mammoth Skeleton
- Teeth and Tusks Can Tell a Story
- The Evolution of the Wenas Bison Antiquus
- Fossils and the Wenas Creek Mammoth Project
- Evaluating 17,000-Year-Old Soil Samples
- Volcanoes and How They Shaped Central Washington State

Complete Series-Wenas Mammoth Mountain Dig Site Topics:

1. Getting Started – Virtual Camp
2. Geology of Wenas Mammoth Mountain
3. Archaeologists, Paleontologists, and Geologists (STEM Careers)
4. Maintaining Field Records
5. Laying Out the Dig Site Unit
6. Excavation
7. Identification of Findings

The curriculum is completed. We just need to decide what program to utilize that teachers, students, and communities can access. We have used Canvas for the teachers through ESD 105, but not all districts around the state are using Canvas. We are also aware that some districts are using Google Classroom while others are only using a conference meeting program such as ZOOM. We will let you know as soon as we get this sorted out and running!

Cultivating Business SELAH CHAMBER of COMMERCE

We believe in transparency! If you want to know where are funding comes from, and how it is spent, that information is on GuideStar.com

GUIDESTAR PLATINUM PARTICIPANT

509-945-4921 | WenasMammothFoundation@gmail.com | WenasMammoth.com | Facebook.com/WenasMammoth
2741 South Wenas Road, Selah, WA 98942

What is STEAM?

What is STEM education? STEM is curriculum that is based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines: **S**-science, **T**-technology, **E**-engineering and **M**-mathematics utilizing an interdisciplinary and applied approach, problem solving, embracing collaboration, and working through the creative process. These four disciplines are not taught separately as discrete subjects, but STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning examples based on real-world applications.

What is STE*A*M? STEM + **A**-Art. Adding the principles of Art into STEM brought another level in the educational structure by allowing students to connect their learning experiences with art practices, elements, design, and standards. It also helps students to recognize the intersection of science, technology, engineering, art, and math. STEAM education is crucial to educate and prepare the next generation of Americans to enter the global workforce.

How does this fit in with the WMF's Educational Program? Here are some examples on how the WMF Educational Program's curriculum collaborates with STE*A*M Skills

Science:

- Biology: Identifying various animals, bones.
- Botany: Identifying ancient plants, and trees.
- Geology: Using site stratigraphy, identifying rocks and minerals.
- Geography: Translate and use maps and charts.
- History: Research field notes, collecting oral history, reading historical documents

Technology: Using technology to recording field notes, writing reports, labeling artifacts, developing vocabulary, giving presentations, communicating information, making 3D models, communicating information

Engineering: Mapping, layouts, gridding, plotting, using surveying equipment, measuring

Art: Photography, sketching, displaying, preparing educational exhibits

Math: Mapping, layouts, gridding, plotting, using surveying equipment, measuring

STEAM education opens opportunities to integrated an approach to learning that encourages students to think more broadly about their future and solving real world problems.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

You Can Make A Difference!

The Wenas Mammoth Foundation is a volunteer based 501 (c)3 non-profit Charity organization. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities for all ages. Volunteer hours vary depending on your availability and commitment.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact us today and we will send you our Volunteer Application. WMF also has Executive Board and Advisory Board opportunities.

WASHINGTON STATE CFD COMBINED FUND DRIVE

EST. 1984

Did you know that the Wenas Mammoth Foundation is registered with the WA State Community Fund Drive, which is administered by the WA State Secretary of State? You can make a difference in bringing local earth science to our youth throughout the state. If you are a WA State employee, you can easily donate to the WMF every month. Go to htts://give.WA.GOV/MyCFD. Under Charities, search for the Wenas Mammoth Foundation. Just follow the steps. Your donation is really appreciated and makes a difference. Thank You!

Making Face Masks

Before the Covid-19 outbreak, the WMF decided to make some masks for the youth that are registered for the 2020 Paleontology, Archaeology, and Geology Youth Summer Camp. In the past, students wore regular masks to protect themselves from the dust when excavating the dig site unit. We finally discovered a fabric store that had such print fabric and bought a few yards with mammoths, bison, or bones. However… with the Covid-19 outbreak, camp has been cancelled. Sally Mayo, WMF Volunteer, has made enough masks for all the students who were registered this year. They have been sent to each student so they can utilize them now and bring them to camp in 2021.

Please consider the WMF. Your generous contribution gives youth the opportunity to learn about local Earth Science in a unique hands-on learning environment. You do make a difference!

Due to its' popularity, the **2020 Virtual STEM Teacher Paleontology, Archaeology Summer Day Camp, Cohort 3** will be offered this summer! Teachers will earn 15 STEM clock hours upon completion. Go to ESD105.org and watch for us under the ESD105 ONLINE Professional Development Classes.

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE WENAS MAMMOTH FOUNDATION'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND BRINGING LOCAL EARTH SCIENCE TO OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF:
❒$25 ❒$50 ❒$100 ❒$250 ❒$500 ❒$1000 ❒ Other $_____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:
Check Payable to the Wenas Mammoth Foundation
Mail to 2741 S. Wenas Road, Selah, WA 98942

PayPal or credit card: Please donate securely at http://www.wenasmammoth.com/donations.html or https://www.facebook.com/WenasMammoth

This gift may be tax deductible

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

❒ Please add me to your Newsletter emailing list.

THANK YOU so much for your donation! You will make a big difference in a child's local earth science education opportunities.

Would you be interested in "Planned Giving" opportunities? Contact us today!

Help us inspire students to be excited about science and desire to learn more.

509-945-4921 | WenasMammothFoundation@gmail.com | WenasMammoth.com | Facebook.com/WenasMammoth
2741 South Wenas Road, Selah, WA 98942